



Diversity in Washington State Contracts, Procurement, Public Works and Transportation

Department of Enterprise Services

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What we are hearing from our customers and communities

- Barriers to doing business
- Difficult and inconsistent processes
- Current performance numbers

Current state – Key findings

- Data not standardized
- Too many systems; they don't communicate
- Missing a full “dashboard” of measures to really understand
- Procurement and contracting activities are organized and structured differently in every agency
- No consistent, coordinated procurement planning processes in agencies

Current state (cont.)

- Not all agencies have a procurement presence on their website
- Not all agencies have a diversity program for procurement
- Procurement diversity training for staff is not a common practice
- Inclusion plans are not a standard practice and their use is limited
- No standard practice for outreach to certified firms as part of a procurement

Current state (cont.)

- The multiple Federal and state laws and rules add to agency confusion and inconsistent experiences for the small and diverse business community
- Many independent efforts but no central focus
- No common language
- No statewide community of practice

Subcabinet Agency Members

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dept. of Transportation, Lynn Peterson• Dept. of Social and Health Services, Kevin Quigley• Health Care Authority, Dorothy Teeter• Dept. of Enterprise Services, Chris Liu• Dept. of Corrections, Bernie Warner	→	Represent more than 2/3 of state spending
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dept. of Labor & Industries, Joel Sacks	→	Community of practice
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dept. of Veteran Affairs, Alfie Alvarado-Ramos• Office of Minority & Women's Enterprises, Alexis Oliver• Commission on African American Affairs, Ed Prince• Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs, Michael Itti• Commission on Hispanic Affairs, Uriel Iniguez	→	Community transparency, reporting and communication
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Attorney General's Office, Laura Watson	→	Single source legal counsel
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Governor's Office representative(s)		

Areas of Focus

- 1. Improve data collection and measurement**
- 2. Clarify and improve legal and policy framework**
- 3. Create a community of practice**
 - Share and adopt procurement tools and processes that work**
 - Foster a diversity and inclusion culture**
 - Improve engagement and assistance (external and internal)**
 - Improve procurement planning to enable better outreach**
 - Training**

This will not be a linear process – work in focus areas will be concurrent

Disparity Study

- Potential scope: State public works and goods & services procurement
- Exploring study design options
- Obtaining lessons learned from previous studies
- Will have a advisory group to assist with developing the procurement requirements
- Aiming for procurement to begin early in the new year.